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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 688  
By Caldwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mr. James Dodson of Jefferson Middle School in Oak Ridge upon his receipt of the Tennessee Art Educator of the Year Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary professionals who have dedicated their talents and their energies to developing and nurturing this state's most precious resource: our children; and

WHEREAS, James Dodson, art teacher at Jefferson Middle School in Oak Ridge, is most assuredly one such superlative educator deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dodson was recently honored by his receipt of the Tennessee Art Educator of the Year Award by the National Art Education Association, at its recent convention in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, NAEA memberships include elementary and secondary art teachers in 50 states, representatives from America's major art museums, state Departments of Education, arts councils, and major colleges and universities throughout the United States and 66 foreign countries; and

WHEREAS, the award is given annually by the NAEA to a member from each state for service and contributions to art education; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Dodson truly personifies the spirit of the Art Educator of the Year Award by inspiring all of us to imagine a better future and creating a better world by encouraging excellence in his students through art; and

WHEREAS, NAEA President Dr. Michael Day recognized him by stating, "Mr. Dodson exemplifies the high quality of individuals involved in the field of art education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars and advocates who give their very best to the profession"; and

WHEREAS, for 11 years the good people of Oak Ridge have long recognized and appreciated Mr. Dodson's excellence as an educator and role model for young people at Jefferson Middle School; and

WHEREAS, James Dodson should be saluted for his generous dedication to the arts and arts education and the positive impact he has on his students' lives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate James Dodson of Jefferson Middle School in Oak Ridge upon his receipt of the Tennessee Art Educator of the Year Award; commend his superlative career as an educator and his ongoing commitment to the arts as an integral part of the complete curriculum; and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Mr. Dodson with this final clause omitted from such copy.